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Howard Langfitt Farm Families of the Week  
Television Scripts

Howard Langfitt Farm Families of the Week

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6-3-1960

### McKenzie, Rosie 1955 family television script

Howard Langfitt

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W L B T

CONTINUITY

[McKenzie, Rosie]

FOR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE [Jan. 1955]

BY \_\_\_\_\_

TIME \_\_\_\_\_

VIDEO

AUDIO

CAMERA ON LANGFITT

WELL, ONCE AGAIN IT IS FRIDAY, AND TIME FOR OUR WEEKLY SALUTE TO THE OUTSTANDING FARM FAMILY OF THE WEEK....A FAMILY MAKING A REAL CONTRIBUTION TO FARMING IN THEIR COMMUNITY AND TO AGRICULTURE IN OUR STATE, AND I BELIEVE TODAY I WOULD GO EVEN FURTHER AND SAY ABOUT THIS FAMILY THAT THEY ARE LIVING EXAMPLES OF THE COURAGE AND DETERMINATION UPON WHICH THIS NATION IS BUILT. I HAVE NEVER SEEN A FAMILY THAT HAD MORE COURAGE AND DETERMINATION THAN DOES THE ONE WHICH WE SALUTE TODAY. TODAY'S FAMILY WAS RECOMMENDED FOR US BY COUNTY AGENT W.C. JEFcoat OF JASPER COUNTY AND I WANT TO THANK HIM FOR AQUAINTING US WITH THIS STORY SO WE COULD TELL IT TO YOU. IT IS A STORY FROM WHICH WE SHOULD ALL GAIN NEW STRENGTH FOR THE FUTURE THAT LIFE MAY OFFER. THIS IS THE STORY OF MRS. ROSIE MCKENZIE AND HER FOUR DAUGHTERS, TRUMAN, DOT, JEAN AND JUDY...A STORY OF SUDDEN TRAGEDY AND HEARTBREAK....A STORY OF FAITH IN REBUILDING A HOME AND A WAY OF LIFE. LANE MCKENZIE HAD ALWAYS BEEN A HARD WORKER WITH A GREAT LOVE FOR HIS GIRLS AND HIS LAND. DAY AFTER DAY HE ROAD A JASPER COUNTY MAINTAINER AND INVESTED HIS

SLIDE FARM-1  
MAIL BOX

# W L B T

## CONTINUITY

FOR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

BY \_\_\_\_\_

TIME \_\_\_\_\_

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-2  
HOUSE

PAYCHECK IN LAND. BY 1951 HE HAD ACCUMULATED 280 ACRES AND BY KEEPING TENANTS ON THE LAND HE WAS ABLE TO MAKE IT PRODUCE AND WAS STILL ABLE TO CARRY ON HIS JOB WITH THE COUNTY ROAD MAINTAINER. LANE MCKENZIE BUILT THIS MODEST BUT COMFORTABLE COUNTRY HOME FOR HIS FAMILY AND THE FUTURE LOOKED RELATIVELY SECURE. IT LOOKED LIKE THE LAND AND THE JOB WOULD PRODUCE ENOUGH TO SEE HIS GIRLS THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL AND SEND THEM ON TO COLLEGE. BUT FATE WAS TO RULE OTHERWISE. LANE MCKENZIE WAS NEVER TO SEE THE CULMINATION OF HIS HOPES AND DREAMS FOR HIS GIRLS. ON A JUNE DAY IN 1951 LANE MCKENZIE DROPPED TO THE GROUND STRIKEN DOWN BY A HEART ATTACK WHICH SNUFFED OUT HIS LIFE. LIFE CAME TO A STANDSTILL ON THE LANE MCKENZIE FARM AND THE FUTURE LOOKED BLEAK INDEED... ALMOST HOPELESS. LANE MCKENZIE HAD BEEN THE MASTER OF HIS WORK. HE HAD MANAGED HIS LAND AND HIS CATTLE. ROSIE MCKENZIE AND THE GIRLS HAD BEEN CONTENT TO ENJOY THE COMFORT HE HAD PROVIDED. NOW, IT MUST ALL CHANGE. A MOTHER AND HER FOUR DAUGHTERS, THE OLDEST 12 YEARS, WHO HAD NEVER SPENT A NIGHT ALONE IN THEIR HOUSE, MUST SUDDENLY MAKE THE DECISIONS AND

SLIDE FARM-3  
BARN

# W L B T

## CONTINUITY

FOR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

BY \_\_\_\_\_

TIME \_\_\_\_\_

VIDEO

AUDIO

ACCEPT THE RESPONSIBILITIES. ROZSEE MCKENZIE TOLD HER DAUGHTERS, AS THE STOOD BESIDE THE FINAL RESTING PLACE OF A HUSBAND AND FATHER, THAT IT WAS TOO MUCH, THAT SHE JUST COULDN'T GO ON LIVING IN THIS HOUSE BY THE SIDE OF THE ROAD. BUT ROSIE MCKENZIE SAYS HER 12 YEAR OLD DAUGHTER SAID "YES YOU CAN MOTHER." AND SHE SAYS WE DID. ROSIE MCKENZIE TOLD ME THAT IN THOSE FIRST YEARS SHE USED TO THINK THAT SHE HAD HER FAMILY...SHE SAYS TODAY I KNOW THEY HAVE ME. THE DECISION, HARD AS IT WAS, WAS MADE TO STAY ON THE LAND. A MOTHER AND HER FOUR DAUGHTERS, RANGING FROM 12 DOWN TO 6 YEARS OF AGE...NOT A BOY IN THE FAMILY...NO ONE TO LEAN ON...GATHERING THEIR OWN COURAGE FACING TO THE FUTURE SORROWFULLY YET WITH DETERMINATION...A DETERMINATION TO MAKE THE HOPES AND DREAMS OF LANE MCKENZIE COME TRUE, AND EVERY DAY THEY COME NEARER TO THAT FULFILLMENT. THE PROBLEMS FACING THIS LITTLE FAMILY IN 1951 WERE MANY. ALL THE MACHINERY ON THE FARM WAS HEAVY MACHINERY...TOO BIG FOR GIRLS TO HANDIE...SO MRS. ROSIE MCKENZIE SET TO WORK TO SELL IT AND GET LIGHTER MACHINERY

# W L B T

## CONTINUITY

FOR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

BY \_\_\_\_\_

TIME \_\_\_\_\_

### VIDEO

### AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-4  
TRACTOR

THAT COULD BE HANDLED BY MRS. MCKENZIE AND THE GIRLS. THE ANSWER TO THEIR NEEDS WAS THIS CUB TRACTOR WHICH IS OPERATED BY ANYONE OF THE FOUR MCKENZIE GIRLS. THE TRACTOR AND THE EQUIPMENT THAT GOES WITH IT IS HEAVY ENOUGH TO MOW HAY, PLOW CORN AND CLIP PASTURES AND THUS IT BECAME THE ANSWER TO THEIR NEEDS. MRS.

MCKENZIE FOUND OUT THE FIRST YEAR THAT SHE COULDN'T GO ON ROW-CROPPING COTTON AND OVERSEE TENANT LABOR, SO SHE CHANGED THE FARM PROGRAM COMPLETELY WITH THE HELP OF HER COUNTY AGENT AND OTHER EXTENSION WORKERS. ROSIE MCKENZIE CHANGED TO CATTIE, GRASS AND TIMBER. IT IS A FARM PROGRAM THAT HAS PAID OFF FOR HER AND THE GIRLS. LANE MCKENZIE LEFT HIS FAMILY WITH 65 HEAD OF COWS TO FEED....FOUR OF THEM REGISTERED. TODAY THE MCKENZIE FAMILY HAS OVER 40 HEAD OF HEREFORDS PLUS THEIR DAIRY COWS...13 HEAD OF HEREFORDS ARE REGISTERED STOCK TODAY. THERE ARE 27 HEAD OF BROOD COWS TO PRODUCE A CALF CROP EACH YEAR, ALL OF THEM SIRED BY AN ANXIETY DOMINO BULL. THE CATTLE AND THE LAND HAVE RESPONDED TO THE WOMAN'S TOUCH. EVEN THIS GREAT BULL CONSENTED TO BE LED AROUND BY MRS. MCKENZIE'S GENTLE BUT

SLIDE FARM-5  
COWS

LIDE FARM-6  
BULL

# W L B T

## CONTINUITY

FOR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

BY \_\_\_\_\_

TIME \_\_\_\_\_

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-7  
YOUNG BULL

SLIDE FARM-8  
PASTURE

FIRM GRASP OF A HORN. MRS. MCKENZIE ADMITTED THAT SHE LOOKED AFTER THE CATTLE MOST OF THE TIME, SAID SHE LOVED TO RAISE THEM. BESIDES THE CALVES SOLD THIS YEAR, ROSIE MCKENZIE HAS SAVED BACK TO REGISTERED YEARLING BULLS WHICH ARE FOR SALE. THIS IS <sup>Judy</sup> ~~BOY~~ WITH ONE OF THEM. AND BELIEVE ME THAT'S AS GOOD LOOKING Y OUNG BULL AS I'VE SEEN IN ANYONE'S HERD. AND IF I WAS LOOKING FOR A YOUNG BULL TO ADD TO MY HERD I WOULDN'T LOOK ANY FURTHER THAN RIGHT HERE. 100 ACRES OF THE FARM IS IN PASTURE...THAT IS OPEN PASTURE. THERE IS AN ADDITIONAL 150 ACRES OF TIMBER THAT PROVIDED ADDITIONAL GRAZING. ANOTHER 8 ACRES OF THE FARM IS IN HAY CROPS, PRIMARILY SERICIA LESPEDEZA. ROSIE MCKENZIE AND HER FOUR DAUGHTERS DO ALL THE FARM WORK, THAT IS EVERYTHING EXCEPT BALING THE HAY AND HARVESTING THEIR 20 ACRES OF CORN. THOSE TWO JOBS ARE HIRED DONE. BUT THE MCKENZIE GIRLS DO ALL THE REST. THE PLANT THE CORN AND OATS...THEY CULTIVATE THE LAND... THEY CLIP THEIR PASTURES...THEY MOW THEIR HAY ...THEY RAKE IT INTO WINROWS READY FOR BALING. IN BUSY SEASONS THE TRACTOR NEVER STOPS FROM



# W L B T

## CONTINUITY

FOR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

BY \_\_\_\_\_

TIME \_\_\_\_\_

VIDEO

AUDIO

DAWN TILL DARK. THE GIRLS EAT AND DO OTHER CHORES IN SHIFTS AND SOMEONE OF THEM IS ALWAYS ON THE TRACTOR STILL GOING. IN FACT, IN SEVERAL INSTANCES THEY HAVE WORKED AT NIGHT BY USING THE TRACTOR LIGHTS IN ORDER TO GET A JOB DONE TO PREVENT ITS DAMAGE OR LOSS. THE FIRST YEAR THE GIRLS AND ROSIE MCKENZIE FARMED ALONE THEY HARVESTED 800 BALES OF HAY AND OVER 375 BUSHELS OF CORN. LAST YEAR THEIR HAY CROP AVERAGED ALMOST 2 TONS TO THE ACRE. MRS. MCKENZIE KEEPS UP WITH EXPERIMENT STATION RECOMMENDATIONS AND IN AT LEAST ONE INSTANCE WAS AHEAD OF MISSISSIPPI STATE COLLEGE ON A LIVESTOCK FEEDING PRACTICE. I'M GOING TO SAVE THAT FOR I WANT MRS. MCKENZIE TO TELL IT. BESIDES CATTLE AND PASTURE, THE THIRD PRINCIPAL CROP IS TIMBER. THE MCKENZIE FAMILY PRACTICES SELECTIVE CUTTING AND THINNING ON THEIR TIMBER LAND AND IT IS PAYING DIVIDENDS. IT IS WELL MANAGED AND PROTECTED FROM FIRE. THIS YEAR ROSIE MCKENZIE AND HER GIRLS SOLD ENOUGH TIMBER TO BUY A NEW CAR, THEY BOUGHT IT WITH SELECTED TREES TAKEN OUT AS INDICATED HERE. TWO SPRING BRANCHES PROVIDE A CONSTANT SUPPLY OF WATER FOR THE LIVESTOCK ENTERPRISE.

SLIDE FARM-9  
TIMBER

SLIDE FARM-10  
TIMBER

# W L B T

## CONTINUITY

FOR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

BY \_\_\_\_\_

TIME \_\_\_\_\_

VIDEO	AUDIO
SLIDE <u>FARM-11</u> <u>DEEP FREEZE</u>	ROSIE MCKENZIE AND HER FOUR DAUGHTERS HAVE A HALF ACRE GARDEN AND FROM IT AND FROM THEIR CATTLE THEY KEEP THIS DEEP FREEZE FULL MOST OF THE TIME. ALL THE GIRLS HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF FILLING THE FREEZER. IN ADDITION THIS FAMILY OF WOMEN CANS ANYTHING THEY CAN'T FREEZE
SLIDE <u>FARM-12</u> <u>CAR</u>	ROSIE MCKENZIE AND HER DAUGHTERS ARE NOT ONLY HARD WORKING FARM FOLKS, THEY HAVE TIME TO TAKE PART IN THE AFFAIRS AND ACTIVITIES OF THEIR COMMUNITY AND COUNTY. MRS. MCKENZIE IS PRESIDENT OF THE BAY SPRINGS HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUB....CO-ORDINATOR BETWEEN THE COUNTY HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUBS AND THE COUNTY FARM BUREAU ....IS F.H.A. CHAPTER MOTHER...IS AN ASSISTANT SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER IN THE BAY SPRINGS FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH AND PRESIDENT OF THE WOMEN'S MISSIONARY AUXILLIARY. ALL THE GIRLS ARE ACTIVE IN THEIR SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHURCH AND ALL ARE ACTIVE 4-H CLUB MEMBERS. LOOKING BACK ON THE PAST FOUR YEARS ROSIE MCKENZIE SAYS THAT THE NECESSITY OF SUPPORTING HER FAMILY WAS THE DRIVING FORCE TO START WITH BUT THAT NOW HERS IS A LIFE WORTH LIVING BECAUSE OF HER FAMILY, HER CHURCH AND ALSO COMMUNITY LOVE. COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING.



# W L B T

## CONTINUITY

FOR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

BY \_\_\_\_\_

TIME \_\_\_\_\_

VIDEO

AUDIO

CAMERA ON LANGFITT

ROSIE MCKENZIE SAYS A FULL LIFE HAS KEPT HER FAMILY GOING...KEEPING BUSY WITH NECESSARY WORK AND TAKING PART IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS. AND THE FUTURE THAT LIES AHEAD LOOKS INCREASINGLY BRIGHTER...WITH THE MCKENZIE FAMILY CONTINUING TO EXPAND THEIR BEEF HERD, IMPROVE THEIR PASTURES AND MANAGE THEIR TIMBER. MRS. MCKENZIE SAYS WE HAD TO DO SOMETHING TO MAKE A LIVING. WE TRY TO MAKE A HOBBY OF IT. I HAVE DELIBERATELY MADE THE PICTURE STORY SHORT...THE REAL STORY IS A PERSONAL LIVING STORY THAT ONLY REALLY COMES TO LIFE AS YOU SEE AND TALK TO THIS WONDERFUL FAMILY, AND THAT'S WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO RIGHT NOW. BUT I DO KNOW THIS THAT LANE MCKENZIE CAN LOOK DOWN WITH PRIDE AT HIS LITTLE FAMILY FOR HE LEFT BEHIND HIM A REAL HERITAGE FOR HIS HAVING WALKED THIS WAY....AN INSPIRATION TO ALL OF US.

QUESTIONS: CAMERA ON MRS. MCKENZIE: 1. TELL US ABOUT THE YEARS THAT HAVE GONE WHAT WERE THE GREATEST OBSTACLES YOU FACED IN THE BEGINNING?

2. WHAT WAS THE FEEDING PROGRAM YOU TRIED WITH YOUR LIVESTOCK?

3. HOW DOES THE FUTURE LOOK TO YOU?

# W L B T

## CONTINUITY

FOR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

BY \_\_\_\_\_

TIME \_\_\_\_\_

### VIDEO

### AUDIO

CAMERA ON OLDEST GIRL:

1. TRUMAN, WHAT IS YOUR MAIN JOB?
2. WHAT ARE YOUR 4-H CLUB ACCOMPLISHMENTS?
3. WHAT PART DO YOU PLAY IN YOUR CHURCH?
3. WHAT HAVE YOU ACCOMPLISHED IN SCHOOL?

CAMERA ON NEXT OLDEST GIRL

1. DOT, WHAT IS YOUR MAIN JOB AT HOME?
2. WHAT PART DO YOU PLAY IN YOUR CHURCH?
3. WHAT ARE YOUR 4-H CLUB ACCOMPLISHMENTS?
4. WHAT PART DO YOU PLAY IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES.

CAMERA ON JEN , NEXT TO YOUNGEST

1. WHAT ARE YOUR MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES AT HOME?
2. WHAT ARE YOUR 4-H PROJECTS?
3. WHAT IS YOUR SCHOOL GRADE AVERAGE?

CAMERA ON JUDY

1. JUDY, YOU'RE JUST GETTING STARTED AND  
I JUST WANT TO SAY THAT IF YOU FOLLOW  
IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF YOUR SISTERS, YOU'LL  
REELY BE GOING SOME.
2. WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO DO AT HOME?

CAMERA ON LANGFITT

WINDUP TO SHOW